

Mr. CAUSIN, Chairman on part of the House, and Mr. RICAUD, Chairman on part of the Senate.

## REPORT

OF

## THE JOINT COMMITTEE,

ON

## THE LIBRARY.

The Joint Committee on the Library beg leave to report what in obedience to the laws and resolutions governing them and prescribing the duties of the Librarian, they have been furnished by that officer and herewith submit to this House, a statement of receipts and expenditures during the year eighteen hundred and thirty eight.

The committee have examined that report and find it correct.

If it was proper to make legislative proceedings, the medium of compliment for the faithful performance of official duty, your committee would find ample theme for culogy in the administration of his department by the present Librarian.

Under his superintendance the Library of the State, has increased in a ratio infinitely exceeding the reasonable anticipations from the application of the fund, set apart for that purpose.

Not only has the number of volumes been rapidly enlarged, but, the works added, have been of a character to reflect honor upon the taste and judgment of the officer.

In addition to this, by the personal labor of the Librarian a large mass of manuscript documents, illustrating, the most interesting periods in the early history of this State, and some of our sister States, have been rescued, from the destruction to which they were hastening; and preserved in a permanent and easily legible form. They form a rich field of historical information, as yet only partially explored, and will furnish materials for the future compiler invaluable in importance and interest.

The committee have no further resolutions to report to the House, those already in form are deemed amply sufficient for the present exigencies of the Library.

JOHN M. S. CAUSIN,

Chairman on part of the House, JAMES B. RICAUD,

Chairman on part of the Senate.